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CAMISE  
(left side)

19 June 1951

MEMORANDUM

TO: STC/SPB  
FROM: FDM/[ ]  
SUBJECT: CAMISE  
REF: Memorandum of 15 June 1951

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2005

A. 1. CAMISE was an employee of the Abwehr from March 1940 to January 1945. She served mainly as secretary, interpreter, and translator, although she was also responsible for agent contact work. For a short period from September 1943 to March 1944 she acted as agent in the German operation to gain information from Count Ciano and to ascertain the location of his papers.

2. CAMISE began working for the SD in Weimar in the fall of 1939 - allegedly being assigned the job by an employment office without knowing its nature. She started as a mail clerk but did not like the atmosphere of the office and asked to be transferred to Amt VI of the RSHA, allegedly because of her desire to use her knowledge of languages. She worked as an Italian interpreter in Berlin from March 1940 to June 1941. She then went to Rome as secretary to the Amt VI chief there and also did agent contact work. She returned to Berlin from November 1941 to July 1942. In July 1942 she went again to Rome as secretary for the new Amt VI chief there and assumed increased responsibilities for agent work. CAMISE claims that she enjoyed the work in Italy because during the period of Axis collaboration, no distasteful methods were used and she suffered no pangs of conscience.

3. In September 1943 CAMISE was sent to Verona, Italy, as interpreter for Count Ciano and succeeded in gaining his confidence. In accordance with the plans of Amt VI and Dr. Ernst Kaltenbrunner, Chief of the Sipo and SD (security police), she strove to bring about Ciano's release (in return for his delivery of his personal papers) in order to discredit and oust Joachim von Ribbentrop, the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Ribbentrop, however, succeeded in having Ciano executed, although CAMISE managed to get Edda Ciano out to Switzerland with copies of Ciano's documents. Subsequently CAMISE helped uncover the remaining documents in Switzerland and Italy and served as translator for those documents in Weimar until January 1945, when she lost contact with Amt VI.

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B. There are no indications that CAMISE maintains contact with other former Abwehr personnel. She is living in Germany under another identity which has been fully documented and backstopped. Any contact of hers with former Abwehr personnel would be extremely incriminating for her and this she fully realizes.

C. 1. The Catholic journalist mentioned in paragraph 52 of CAMISE's PRQ is Dr. Josef Grunner, chief Berlin editor of the west German edition of the Telegraf. Grunner was head of the political desk of the Telegraf in October 1947. At that time he was sent to Vienna by the Telegraf to investigate the Soviet controlled underground movement in the Austrian Socialist Party, because of his good contacts in the Party and his Austrian background. From the fall of 1947 to the middle of 1949, Grunner was CAMISE's boss on the political desk of the Telegraf. Grunner then took the job of chief Berlin editor of the West German edition of the Telegraf, and at the same time CAMISE was put in charge of the Frankfurt field office for the west German edition.

2. During the course of their professional association, CAMISE fell in love with Grunner, who is a married man with two children. Grunner made it clear to CAMISE in June 1949 that he was loath to ask for a divorce and therefore broke up the whole thing. This was a crushing blow to CAMISE who had been led to believe that Grunner would send his wife back to Vienna in order to pave the way for a divorce and subsequent marriage with her. However, recent progress reports indicate that CAMISE is slowly getting over her emotional involvement with Grunner.

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